For compoſition I prefer next Ludovico, a moſt judicious and ſweet *compoſer*. *Peacham of Muſick.*

The *compoſer* has ſo expreſſed my ſenſe, where I intended to move the paſſions, that he ſeems to have been the poet as well as the *compoſer*. *Dryden's Albion and Albanius, Preface.*

COMPO'SITE. *adj.* [*compoſitus*, Latin.]

The *compoſite* order in architecture is the laſt of the five orders of columns; ſo named becauſe its capital is compoſed out of thoſe of the other orders; and it is alſo called the Roman and Italick order. *Harris.*

Some are of opinion, that the *compoſite* pillars of this arch were made in imitation of the pillars of Solomon's temple. *Addiſon's Remarks on Italy.*

COMPOSI'TION. *n. ſ.* [*compoſitio*, Latin.]

1. The act of forming an integral of various diſſimilar parts.

We have exact forms of *compoſition*, whereby they incorporate almoſt as they were natural ſimples. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*

In the time of the yncas reign in Peru, no *compoſition* was allowed by the laws to be uſed in point of medicine, but only ſimples proper to each diſeaſe. *Temple.*

2. The act of bringing ſimple ideas into complication, oppoſed to analyſis, or the ſeparation of complex notions.

The inveſtigation of difficult things, by the method of analyſis, ought ever to precede the method of *compoſition*. *Newt.*

3. A maſs formed by mingling different ingredients.

Heat and vivacity in age, is an excellent *compoſition* for buſineſs. *Bacon, Eſſay* 43.

Vaſt pillars of ſtone, caſed over with a *compoſition*, that looks the moſt like marble of any thing one can imagine. *Addiſon.*

Jove mix'd up all, and his beſt clay employ'd,
Then call'd the happy *compoſition* Floyd. *Swift.*

4. The ſtate of being compounded; union; conjunction; combination.

Contemplate things firſt in their own ſimple natures, and afterwards view them in *compoſition* with other things. *Watts.*

5. The arrangement of various figures in a picture.

The diſpoſition in a picture is an aſſembling of many parts: this is alſo called the *compoſition*, by which is meant the diſtribution and orderly placing of things, both in general and in particular. *Dryden's Dufreſnoy.*

6. Written work.

Writers are divided concerning the authority of the greater part of thoſe *compoſitions* that paſs in his name. *L'Eſtrange.*

That divine prayer has always been looked upon as a *compoſition* fit to have proceeded from the wiſeſt of men. *Addiſon.*

When I read rules of criticiſm, I enquire after the works of the author, and by that means diſcover what he likes in a *compoſition*. *Addiſon's Guardian*, N°. 115.

7. Adjuſtment; regulation.

A preacher in the invention of matter, election of words, *compoſition* of geſture, look, pronunciation, motion, uſeth all theſe faculties at once. *Benj. Johnſon's Diſcov.*

8. Compact; agreement; terms on which differences are ſettled.

To take away all ſuch mutual grievance, injuries and wrongs, there was no way but only by going upon *compoſition* and agreement amongſt themſelves. And again, all publick regiment, of what kind ſoever, ſeemeth evidently to have ariſen from deliberate advice, conſultation, and *compoſition* between men, judging it convenient and behoveful. *Hooker.*

Thus we are agreed;
I crave our *compoſition* may be written,
And ſeal'd between us. *Shakeſpeare's Anthony and Cleopatra.*

Their courage droops, and, hopeleſs now, they wiſh
For *compoſition* with th' unconquer'd fiſh. *Waller.*

9. The act of diſcharging a debt by paying part; the ſum paid.

10. Conſiſtency; congruity.

There is no *compoſition* in theſe news,
That gives them credit.———
—Indeed they are diſproportion'd. *Shakeſpeare's Othello.*

11. [In grammar.] The joining of two words together, or the prefixing a particle to another word, to augment, diminiſh, or change its ſignification.

12. A certain method of demonſtration in mathematicks, which is the reverſe of the analytical method, or of reſolution. It proceeds upon principles in themſelves ſelf-evident, on definitions, poſtulates and axioms, and a previouſly demonſtrated ſeries of propoſitions, ſtep by ſtep, 'till it gives a clear knowledge of the thing to be demonſtrated. This is called the ſynthetical method, and is uſed by Euclid in his Elements. *Harris.*

COMPO'SITIVE. *adj.* [from *compoſe*.] Compounded; or having the power of compounding. *Dict.*

COMPO'SITOR. *n. ſ.* [from *compoſe*.] He that ranges and adjuſts the types in printing; diſtinguiſhed from the preſſman, who makes the impreſſion upon paper.

COMPOST. *n. ſ.* [Fr. *compoſitum*, Lat.] A mixture of various ſubſtances for enriching the ground; manure.

We alſo have great variety of *compoſts* and ſoils, for the making of the earth fruitful. *Bacon's Atlantis.*

Avoid what is to come,
And do not ſpread the *compoſt* on the weeds,
To make them ranker. *Shakeſpeare's Hamlet.*

Water young planted ſhrubs, amomum eſpecially, which you can hardly refreſh too often, and it requires abundant *compoſt*. *Evelyn's Kalendar.*

There, as his dream foretold, a cart he found,
That carry'd *compoſt* forth to dung the ground. *Dryden.*

In vain the nurſling grove
Seems fair a while, cheriſh'd with foſter earth;
But when the alien *compoſt* is exhauſt,
Its native poverty again prevails. *Philips.*

To COMPO'ST. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To manure; to enrich with ſoil.

By removing into worſe earth, or forbearing to *compoſt* the earth. water-mint turneth into field-mint, and the colewort into rape. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 518.

As for earth, it *compoſeth* itſelf; for I knew a garden that had a field poured upon it, and it did bear fruit excellently. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 596.

COMPO'STURE. *n. ſ.* [from *compoſt*.] Soil; manure.

The earth's a thief,
That feeds and breeds by a *compoſture* ſtol'n
From gen'ral excrements. *Shakeſpeare's Timon.*

COMPO'SURE. *n. ſ.* [from *compoſe*.]

1. The act of compoſing or inditing.

Their own forms are not like to be ſo found, or comprehenſive of the nature of the duty, as forms of publick *compoſure*. *King Charles.*

2. Arrangement; combination; mixture; order.

Hence languages ariſe, when, by inſtitution and agreement, ſuch a *compoſure* of letters, *i. e.* ſuch a word, is intended to ſignify ſuch a certain thing. *Holder on Elements of Speech.*

From the various *compoſures* and combinations of theſe corpuſcles together, happen all the varieties of the bodies formed out of them. *Woodward's Natural Hiſtory.*

3. The form ariſing from the diſpoſition of the various parts.

In *compoſure* of his face,
Liv'd a fair, but manly grace. *Craſhaw.*

4. Frame; make; temperament.

To reel the ſtreets at noon, and ſtand the buffet
With ſlaves that ſmell of ſweat; ſay this becomes him:
As his *compoſure* muſt be rare indeed,
Whom theſe things cannot blemiſh. *Shakeſ. Ant. and Cleop.*

5. Diſpoſition; relative adjuſtment.

The duke of Buckingham ſprung, without any help, by a kind of congenial *compoſure*, to the likeneſs of our late ſovereign and maſter. *Wotton.*

6. Compoſition; framed diſcourſe.

Diſcourſes on ſuch occaſions are ſeldom the productions of leiſure, and ſhould be read with thoſe favourable allowances that are made to haſty *compoſures*. *Atterbury's Pref. to Sermons.*

In the *compoſures* of men, remember you are a man as well as they; and it is not their reaſon, but your own, that is given to guide you. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

7. Sedateneſs; calmneſs; tranquillity.

To whom the virgin majeſty of Eve,
As one who loves, and ſome unkindneſs meets,
With ſweet auſtere *compoſure* thus reply'd. *Milt. Par. Loſt.*

The calmeſt and ſereneſt hours of life, when the paſſions of nature are all ſilent, and the mind enjoys its moſt perfect *compoſure*. *Watts's Logick.*

8. Agreement; compoſition; ſettlement of differences.

The treaty at Uxbridge gave the faireſt hopes of an happy *compoſure*. *King Charles.*

Van guard! to right and left the front unfold,
That all may ſee, who hate us, how we ſeek
Peace and *compoſure*. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* vi. *l.* 560.

Things were not brought to an extremity where I left the ſtory: there ſeems yet to be room left for a *compoſure*; hereafter there may be only for pity. *Dryd. Prof. to Abſ. and Achit.*

COMPOTA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*compotatio*, Lat.] The act of drinking or tippling together.

Secrecy to words ſpoke under the roſe, only mean, in *compotation*, from the ancient cuſtom in ſympoſiack meetings, to wear chaplets of roſes. *Brown's Vulgar Errours.*

If thou wilt prolong
Dire *compotation*, forthwith reaſon quits
Her empire to confuſion and miſrule,
And vain debates; then twenty tongues at once
Conſpire in ſenſeleſs jargon; naught is heard
But din and various clamour, and mad rant. *Phillips.*

To COMPO'UND. *v. a.* [*compono*, Latin.]

1. To mingle many ingredients together in one maſs.

2. To form by uniting various parts.

Whoſoever *compoundeth* any like it, ſhall be cut off. *Ex.* xxx.

It will be difficult to evince, that nature does not make decompounded bodies; I mean, mingle together ſuch bodies as are already *compounded* of elementary, or rather of ſimple ones. *Boyle's Sceptical Chymiſt.*

The ideas, being each but one ſingle perception, are eaſier got than the more complex ones; and therefore are not liable to the uncertainty, which attends thoſe *compounded* ones. *Locke.*

3. To mingle in different poſitions; to combine.

We cannot have a ſingle image that did not enter through the

†

ſight; but we have the power of altering and *compounding* thoſe images into all the varieties of picture. *Addiſ. Spectator.*

4. [In grammar.] To form one word from two or more words.

Where it and Tigris embrace each other under the city of Apamia, there do they agree of a joint and *compounded* name, and are called *Piſo-Tigris*. *Raleigh's Hiſtory of the World.*

5. To compoſe by being united.

Who'd be ſo mock'd with glory, as to live
But in a dream of friendſhip?
To have his pomp, and all what ſtate *compounds*,
But only painted, like his varniſh'd friends! *Shakeſ. Timon.*

6. To adjuſt a difference by ſome receſſion from the rigour of claims.

I would to God all ſtrifes were well *compounded*. *Shakeſp.*

If there be any diſcord or ſuits between any of the family, they are *compounded* and appeaſed. *Bacon's New Atlantis.*

7. To diſcharge a debt by paying only part.

Shall I, ye gods, he cries, my debts *compound*? *Gay.*

To COMPO'UND. *v. n.*

1. To come to terms of agreement by abating ſomething of the firſt demand. It has *for* before the thing accepted or remitted.

They were, at laſt, glad to *compound for* his bare commitment to the Tower. *Clarendon.*

Pray but for half the virtues of this wife;
Compound for all the reſt, with longer life. *Dryden.*

2. To bargain in the lump.

Here's a fellow will help you to-morrow: *compound* with him by the year. *Shakeſpeare's Meaſure for Meaſure.*

3. To come to terms.

Cornwal *compounded* to furniſh ten oxen after Michaelmas for thirty pounds. *Carew's Survey of Cornwal.*

Once more I come to know of thee, king Harry,
If *for* thy ranſom thou wilt now *compound*,
Before thy moſt aſſured overthrow? *Shakeſ. Henry* V.

Made all the royal ſtars recant,
Compound and take the covenant. *Hudibras, p.* ii. *cant.* 3.

But uſeleſs all, when he, deſpairing, found
Catullus then did with the winds *compound*. *Dryd. Juvenal.*

Paracelſus and his admirers have *compounded* with the Galeniſts, and brought a mixed uſe of chymical medicines into the preſent practice. *Temple.*

4. To determine. This is not in uſe.

We here deliver,
Subſcribed by the conſuls and patricians,
Together with the ſeal of the ſenate, what
We have *compounded* on. *Shakeſpeare's Coriolanus.*

COMPOUND. *adj.* [from the verb.]

1. Formed out of many ingredients; not ſingle.

The ancient electrum had in it a fifth of ſilver to the gold, and made a *compound* metal, as fit for moſt uſes as gold. *Bacon.*

Compound ſubſtances are made up of two or more ſimple ſubſtances. *Watts's Logick.*

2. [In grammar.] Compoſed of two or more words; not ſimple.

Thoſe who are his greateſt admirers, ſeem pleaſed with them as beauties; I ſpeak of his *compound* epithets. *Pope.*

3. COMPOUND *or aggregated Flower*, in botany, is ſuch as conſiſts of many little flowers, concurring together to make up one whole one; each of which has its ſtyle and ſtamina, and adhering feed, and are all contained within one and the ſame calyx: ſuch are the ſunflower and dandelion. *Harris.*

COMPOUND. *n. ſ* [from the verb.] The maſs formed by the union of many ingredients.

For preſent uſe or profit, this is the rule: conſider the price of the two ſimple bodies; conſider again the dignity of the one above the other in uſe; then ſee if you can make a *compound*, that will ſave more in price than it will loſe in dignity of the uſe. *Bacon's Phyſical Rem.*

As man is a *compound* and mixture of fleſh, as well as ſpirit. *South's Sermons.*

Love, why do we one paſſion call?
When 'tis a *compound* of them all;
Where hot and cold, where ſharp and ſweet,
In all their equipages meet. *Swift.*

COMPO'UNDABLE. *adj.* [from *compound*.] Capable of being compounded.

COMPO'UNDER. *n. ſ.* [from *To compound*.]

1. One who endeavours to bring parties to terms of agreement.

Theſe ſoftners, ſweeteners, *compounders*, and expedient-mongers, who ſhake their heads ſo ſtrongly. *Swift.*

2. A mingler; one who mixes bodies.

To COMPREHE'ND. *v. a.* [*comprehendo*, Latin.]

1. To compriſe; to include; to contain; to imply.

If there be any other commandment, it is briefly *comprehended* in this ſaying, namely, Thou ſhalt love thy neighbour as thyſelf. *Rom.* xiii. 9.

It would be ridiculous to grow old in the ſtudy of every neceſſary thing, in an art which *comprehends* ſo many ſeveral parts. *Dryden's Dufreſnoy.*

2. To contain in the mind; to underſtand; to conceive.

Rome was not better by her Horace taught,
Than we are here to *comprehend* his thought. *Waller.*

'Tis unjuſt, that they who have not the leaſt notion of heroic writing, ſhould therefore condemn the pleaſure which others receive from it, becauſe they cannot *comprehend* it. *Dryd.*

COMPREHE'NSIBLE. *adj.* [*comprehenſible*, Fren. *comprehenſibilis*, Lat.] Intelligible; attainable by the mind; conceiveable by the underſtanding.

The horizon ſets the bounds between the enlightened and dark parts of things, between what is and what is not *comprehenſible* by us. *Locke.*

COMPREHE'NSIBLY. *adv.* [from *comprehenſible*.] With great power of ſignification or underſtanding; ſignificantly; with great extent of ſenſe.

The words wiſdom and righteouſneſs are commonly uſed very *comprehenſibly*, ſo as to ſignify all religion and virtue. *Tillot.*

COMPREHE'NSION. *n. ſ.* [*comprehenſio*, Latin.]

1. The act or quality of compriſing or containing; incluſion.

In the Old Teſtament there is a cloſe *comprehenſion* of the New, in the New an open diſcovery of the Old. *Hooker, b.* v.

The *comprehenſion* of an idea regards all eſſential modes and properties of it; ſo body, in its *comprehenſion*, takes in ſolidity, figure, quantity, mobility. *Watts's Logick.*

2. Summary; epitome; compendium; abſtract; abridgment in which much is compriſed.

If we would draw a ſhort abſtract of human happineſs, bring together all the various ingredients of it, and digeſt them into one preſcription, we muſt at laſt fix on this wiſe and religious aphoriſm in my text, as the ſum and *comprehenſion* of all. *Rogers, Sermon* 19.

3. Knowledge; capacity; power of the mind to admit and contain many ideas at once.

You give no proof of decay of your judgment, and *comprehenſion* of all things, within the compaſs of an human underſtanding. *Dryden.*

4. [In rhetorick.] A trope or figure, by which the name of a whole is put for a part, or that of a part for the whole, or a definite number for an indefinite. *Harris.*

COMPREHE'NSIVE. *adj.* [from *comprehend*.]

1. Having the power to comprehend or underſtand many things at once.

He muſt have been a man of a moſt wonderful *comprehenſive* nature, becauſe he has taken into the compaſs of his Canterbury tales the various manners and humours of the whole Engliſh nation in his age; not a ſingle character has eſcaped him. *Dryden's Fables, Preface.*

His hand unſtain'd, his uncorrupted heart,
His *comprehenſive* head; all int'reſts weigh'd,
All Europe ſav'd, yet Britain not betray'd. *Pope's Epiſtles.*

2. Having the quality of compriſing much; compendious; extenſive.

So diffuſive, ſo *comprehenſive*, ſo catholick a grace is charity, that whatever time is the opportunity of any other virtue, that time is the opportunity of charity. *Sprat's Sermons.*

COMPREHE'NSIVELY. *adv.* [from *comprehenſive*.] In a comprehenſive manner.

COMPREHE'NSIVENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *comprehenſive*.] The quality of including much in a few words or narrow compaſs.

Compare the beauty and *comprehenſiveneſs* of legends on ancient coins. *Addiſon on Ancient Medals.*

To COMPRE'SS. *v. a.* [*compreſſus*, Latin.]

1. To force into a narrower compaſs; to ſqueeze together.

2. To embrace.

Her Neptune ey'd, with bloom of beauty bleſt,
And in his cave the yielding nymph *compreſt*. *Pope's Odyſſ.*

There was in the iſland of Io a young girl *compreſſed* by a genius, who delighted to aſſociate with the muſes. *Pope.*

COMPRE'SS. *n. ſ.* [from the verb.] Bolſters of linen rags, by which ſurgeons ſuit their bandages for any particular part or purpoſe. *Quincy.*

I applied an intercipient about the ankle and upper part of the foot, and by *compreſs* and bandage dreſſed it up. *Wiſeman.*

COMPRESSIBI'LITY. *n. ſ.* [from *compreſſible*.] The quality of being compreſſible; the quality of admitting to be brought by force into a narrower compaſs; as air may be compreſſed, but water can by no violence be reduced to leſs ſpace than it naturally occupies.

COMPRE'SSIBLE. *adj.* [from *compreſs*.] Capable of being forced into a narrower compaſs; yielding to preſſure, ſo as that one part is brought nearer to another.

Their being ſpiral particles, accounts for the elaſticity of air; their being ſpherical particles, which gives free paſſage to any heterogeneous matter, accounts for air's being *compreſſible*. *Cheyne's Phil. Prin.*

COMPRE'SSIBLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *compreſſible*.] Capability of being preſſed cloſe. *Dict.*

COMPRE'SSION. *n. ſ.* [*compreſſio*, Latin.] The act of bringing the parts of any body more near to each other by violence; the quality of admitting ſuch an effort of force as may compel the body compreſſed into a narrower ſpace.

Whenſoever a ſolid body is preſſed, there is an inward tumult in the parts thereof, ſeeking to deliver themſelves from the *compreſſion*; and this is the cauſe of all violent motion. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory*, N°. 9.

The